



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality



Oregon's Clean Water Partnership

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What is the Clean Water Partnership (CWP)?

- An effort to improve the success of Oregon's programs to protect and restore waters of the state and their beneficial uses.
- Led by Governor Kate Brown and her Natural Resources Office, with the leadership from DEQ, ODA, ODFW, and OWEB, with support from INR.
- It includes participation from ODF, OWRD, and DSL, as well as the key federal agencies: USFS, BLM, EPA, NOAA and USGS.

What Outcomes Do We Want?

- Improved water quality and watershed health across the state, with improving trends everywhere by 2025.
- Wild salmon, trout and fisheries populations restored to sustainable and productive levels.
- Stable and renewing resources supporting Oregon's forest and agricultural economies and the rural communities that depend on them.

What are the Goals?

- Improve the information on current status and trends of the water quality, fish and habitats in Oregon.
- Enable cooperation between state and federal agencies, and to improve the efficiency of our monitoring, conservation and restoration work.
- Collaborate decision making on where and how dollars should be spent to get the best outcomes and improvement for our waters, fish and habitat.

How Will It Work?

- A core team will include key state, federal, tribal, local and partner implementation leads.
- A policy team led by OWEB, will include representatives of the director's offices with the involved state and federal agencies.
- Two technical teams will be led by facilitators from INR to assist state and federal agencies in meeting the goals and outcomes:
 1. A monitoring and trends assessment technical team, building on work of the STREAM team;
 2. A restoration technical team, building on the Conservation Effectiveness Partnership (CEP).

What's next?

- The framework for the partnership is in the planning phase and moving forward
- Teams will be in place and meeting regularly, and technical teams will develop preliminary reports A statewide implementation strategy is in process
- Watersheds will be identified for implementation and restoration activities

ODA – Strategic Initiatives

“Focus Areas”

- SWCDs identify small geographic areas to “Focus” efforts for outreach, technical assistance, and project development for restoration projects.
 - Currently 50 Focus Areas statewide
 - (43 assess streamside veg, 7 other water parameters)
 - Pre-assessment
 - Work with landowners
 - Post-assessment of change
 - Report measurement of progress

ODA Strategic Initiatives “Strategic “Implementation Areas”

- ODA identifies areas to assess land conditions to determine compliance with ag water quality rules. (Builds on the program’s complaint-based process)
 - Currently 9 Strategic Implementation Areas statewide
 - Determine threats to WOS via lack of streamside veg or potential of bacteria and/or sediment pollution
 - Phased outreach opportunities to landowners
 - Landowners may voluntarily receive technical assistance
 - Site investigations by ODA to those not responding
 - Post-assess progress
 - **Enforcement component**

Monitoring Teams

- STREAM Team
- CEP
- WQPMT
- OPMT
- Local and State ambient

STREAM Team

- Multi-state agencies involved with both water quality and water quantity
- **Mission:** *facilitate collaborative decision making to support a healthy environment through coordinated planning, monitoring, and communication of water related data and information among Oregon's natural resource agencies*
 - Avoid redundancy
 - Identify roles/responsibilities and data gaps
 - Feedback – when there are questions and/or reporting needs

CEP

- MOU w/NRCS, OWEB, DEQ, and ODA
 - Measure:
 - Cumulative conservation and restoration actions
 - To achieve natural resource outcomes through
 - collaborative monitoring,
 - evaluating, and
 - reporting.

Wilson River Success!



CONSERVATION EFFECTIVENESS PARTNERSHIP

PULLING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE NATURAL RESOURCE INVESTMENTS IN OREGON

Dive In! Tillamook's Wilson River now Clean Enough for Swimming

Tillamook, Ore.—The water in Wilson River is now clean enough for the general public to enjoy swimming or wading thanks to water quality improvement efforts and monitoring measures by cooperating public natural resource agencies, nonprofits and landowners.

Wilson River is the largest watershed feeding Tillamook Bay, a major water body on Oregon's northern coast. While the upper portion of the river is flanked by forestland, the lower 8.5 miles flows through dairy land and is affected by development pressures from the City of Tillamook.

THE PROBLEM

In 1997, the lower 8.5-mile segment of the Wilson River was found to have dangerously high bacteria levels, which moved

Oregon State University, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA Farm Service Agency, DEQ, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), and the Tillamook Soil and Water Conservation District, which leveraged their investments in multiple conservation projects and water quality data monitoring intended to improve and measure the watershed's health.

MULTI-PRONGED EFFORT

Partners spent millions of dollars to restore and protect Tillamook Bay and its watershed. Projects included 20 riparian enhancements on private land that fostered planting, fencing and invasive species removal to stabilize streambanks and to keep livestock off a buffer of land along the river's edge; purchase of three wetland parcels and improvements to

WQPMT

- EPA tasked ODA to lead efforts in evaluating and managing pesticide levels in surface and ground waters by developing a statewide coordinated plan
- Pesticide Stewardship Partnerships Monitoring watersheds, disseminating data, voluntary efforts w/ landowners, supporting collection events
 - Currently 10 watersheds being monitored
 - Given available resources, more on the horizon

OR Plan Monitoring Team

- **Assess** the conditions in each watershed to determine the quality of the existing environment
- **Identify** the causes for declines in habitat, fish and wildlife populations and water quality
- **Assist** with the development of local action plans for watersheds that will achieve protection and restoration objectives
- **Coordinate** implementation of watershed action plans
- **Monitor and ensure** implementation of the watershed action plans using adaptive management
- **Establish** funding priorities across basins based on the value of programs and projects for watershed and habitat recovery.

Partnerships

In addition to these teams mentioned, local efforts are showing the dedication of collaboration and coordination throughout Oregon to care for our natural resources.

Where are we today?

- Richard Whitman, GNRO, convening meetings
- Many agencies involved = many agendas
- INR received OWEB \$ to develop a “Statewide Process” for implementation of partnership initiatives
- OWEB hired a coordinator to lead the way....WELCOME JAMIE DAMON to the team!
- Moving forward by continuing collaboration efforts
- STAY TUNED!

Thank you!

